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What is claimed is:

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1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising  
a therapeutic quantity of a COX-2 inhibitor having an IC50-WHMA COX-  
2/COX-1 ratio ranging from about 0.23 to about 3.33 with reduced  
gastrointestinal and cardiovascular toxicity.

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2. The Pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the COX-2  
inhibitor comprises a botanical COX-2 inhibitor.

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3. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the COX-2  
inhibitor comprises iso-alpha acids.

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4. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 3, wherein the iso-  
alpha acids are obtained from a supercritical carbon dioxide extraction of whole  
hops.

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5. The therapeutic composition of claim 1, wherein the dose of the  
COX-2 inhibitor ranges from about 5 mg. to about 1,000 mg. per day.

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6. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 3, wherein the dose of  
the iso-alpha acids is 100 mg. to about 1,000 mg. per day.

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7. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 6 wherein the dose of  
iso-alpha acids is 200 mg. to 600 mg.

8. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, further comprising a  
mineral salt or alkali earth salt, or a mineral carbonate.

10           9.     The pharmaceutical composition of claim 3, further comprising a  
11                   mineral salt or alkali earth salt or mineral carbonate.

12           10.    The pharmaceutical composition of claim 9, wherein the mineral  
13                   salt or alkali earth salt is potassium hydroxide

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15           10.    The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein the  
16                   amount of potassium hydroxide per dose is 25 mg. to 500 mg.

1           11.    A method for the treatment, of pain in mammals comprising:  
2                   selecting the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1; and  
3                   administering a therapeutically effective amount of the pharmaceutical  
4                   composition to a mammal in need thereof.

1           12.    A method for treating osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis or acute  
2                   pain comprising:  
3                   selecting the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1; and  
4                   administering a therapeutically effective amount of the pharmaceutical  
5                   composition in need thereof.  
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1           13.    The method of claim 11, wherein the COX-2 inhibitor comprises  
2                   a botanical COX-2 inhibitor.

1           14.    The method of claim 12, wherein the COX-2 inhibitor comprises  
2                   a botanical COX-2 inhibitor.

1           15.    The method of claim 11, wherein the COX-2 inhibitor comprises  
2                   iso-alpha acids.

1           16.    The method of claim 12, wherein the COX-2 inhibitor comprises  
2                   iso-alpha acids.



12                    22.<sup>23</sup> The method of claim 21, wherein the COX-2 inhibitor is from a  
13                    botanical source.

14                    23.<sup>24</sup> The method of claim 22, wherein the COX-2 inhibitor is iso-  
15                    alpha acids.

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17                    24.<sup>25</sup> The method of claim 23, further comprising a mineral salt or  
18                    alkali earth salt or mineral carbonate.

19                    25.<sup>26</sup> The method of claim 24, wherein the mineral salt is potassium  
20                    hydroxide.

21                    26.<sup>27</sup> A method for producing a fast onset of pain relief in a mammal  
22                    comprising administering to a mammal a therapeutically effective analgesic  
23                    amount of iso-alpha acids.

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